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Bookplates by Sidney L. Smith. 1921.

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BOOKPLATES

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Cambridge.

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BOOKPLATES BY SIDNEY L. SMITH

By Gardner Teall

Among American masters of line-engraving Sidney L. Smith occupies a conspicuous place. The present century has not found united in the work of a single engraver more varied qualities of excellence than will be found in the achievements of this artist. In Smith's work, whether it be portraiture, landscape, architecture, allegory, symbolism, heraldic design, or lettering, one does not find a dull line, an insipid conception, inadequate technique, or a touch of the commonplace.

"Prints," says Emil H. Richter in a brief review of their technique and history,[1] "are familiar to every one of us, and yet the subject of prints is strangely unfamiliar. If we look at a painting, a piece of sculpture, or at a monumental building, we know how these things came into being. Without any effort we can see in our mind's eye the painter, with palette and brushes, applying the colors on his canvas, we can see the sculptor thumbing the clay model on the stand

[1] *Prints*, by Emil H. Richter, Houghton Mifflin, 1914.

libris is cold, awkward, or both. In Smith's designs such faults are absent.

Landscape has always attracted masters of the graver. This is no exception in Smith's case. But how different a problem is the miniature work imposed by the size of a bookplate from that where the engraver and etcher has at command a less limited surface! This should be taken into account in studying Smith's landscape bookplates. Yet in them all—the design for Bertram Perry Huggins with its lovely mountain waterfall, the Thomas Upham Coe with its fanciful moonlit Egyptian scene, the Susan Janney Allen with its glimpse of the far western mountainous Indian country, and the Bangor Public Library, State Fund, with its Maine river view, among other ex-libris—one finds the artist-engraver equal to his problem. In all his landscape designs there is verity of scene, atmosphere, and beauty of composition and the technical handling of these masterly landscapes in miniature evokes admiration and wonder.

Such bookplates as those for Dr. Joseph C. Egbert with its house set in a grove, the Bangor Public Library, Patten Fund, with the exquisitely conceived view of the city as seen through the library window, the view of the library in the Lynn Public Library, the "Prospect of the Colleges in Cambridge in New England" in the

Winward Prescott, Harvard University, Working Library design as well as the architectural features in other designs, exhibit a sympathetic and refined architectural sense in the application of which good taste and restraint are never sacrificed.

In decorative design—heraldic, symbolic, and other ornament—the bookplates designed and engraved by Sidney L. Smith never descend to the insipid. The design for the Reverend J. B. Troy, that for the Library of the Newton Theological Seminary, the Winward and Hazel Prescott, and the Andreini are masterpieces of exquisitely conceived ornament in which complete harmony prevails, free, too, from the discordant note of the bizarre.

In the angling design for the late Daniel B. Fearing, of which a small reproduction in photogravure was prepared for Mr. Fearing, we find a very naturalistic treatment of the subject, a trout rising to the bait. This bookplate is exceptionally remarkable in the annals of engraved bookplates and it is one more word in evidence of Sidney L. Smith's remarkable versatility, as is also the Alfred Fowler, etched in 1911, which is a technical achievement, reproducing almost completely the effect of the woodcut of the Kelmscott printer's mark.

To collectors these bookplates will prove the

same perennial joy that they must, indeed, prove to their original owners, and while such engraving is produced by contemporary artists there can be no decline in an art which has so enriched the world's intellectual advance.

Kelmscott
William Morris
Ex-libris
Harry Alfred Fowler

A CHECK-LIST OF BOOKPLATES

BY SIDNEY L. SMITH

(Arranged chronologically)

1. George H. Ellwanger 1890
2. W. H. Chase 1896
3. J. B. Troy 1896
4. Charles J. Groves . . . 1896
5. John Delahunty 1896
6. Frederick Thayer Hunt . . . 1896
7. Arthur T. Connolly . . . 1896
8. Gratwick 1897
9. Adaline B. Beal 1897
10. H. F. Tapley 1897
11. Boston Public Library, John Boyle O'Reilly Memorial . . 1897
12. B. T. Capen 1897
    Small, 1¼ by 2¼ inches in size.
13. B. T. Capen 1897
    Large, 2¾ by 4 inches in size. A medium sized reproduction of this design, measuring 1¾ by 3 inches, was executed in 1906.
14. Bangor Public Library, Hersey Fund 1897
15. Bangor Public Library, Mechanic Association Fund . . . 1897

William Morris
Ex-libris
Harry Alfred Rowler

A CHECK-LIST OF BOOKPLATES

BY SIDNEY L. SMITH

(Arranged chronologically)

1. George H. Ellwanger . . . 1890
2. W. H. Chase 1896
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    Small, 1¼ by 2¼ inches in size.
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    Large, 2¼ by 4 inches in size. A medium sized reproduction of this design, measuring 1¾ by 3 inches, was executed in 1906.
14. Bangor Public Library, Hersey Fund 1897
15. Bangor Public Library, Mechanic Association Fund . . . 1897

16. James Hamilton and Adele Calhoun Parker McCord . . 1897
17. Henry Jackson 1897
    After Nathaniel Hurd.
18. Z. T. Hollingsworth . . . 1898
19. Lulu Glaser 1898
20. W. H. Chase 1898
    Small etching of the large design.
21. Newton Theological Institution . 1898
22. John S. Bartlett 1898
23. Roberts 1898
24. Pequot Library, Wakeman Fund 1899
25. Daniel B. Fearing . . . 1899
    There is a small reproduction of this bookplate by Tiffany & Co.
26. Arthur Hewes Sargent . . 1899
    After Paul Revere.
27. Hope Clement 1899
    A variety of this design exists with "Clara Erskine Clement" in addition to the first name.
28. Francis Stanton Blake . . 1899
29. Frederic Haines Curtiss . . 1899
    Designed by Howard Pyle.
30. District of Columbia Public Library 1899
31. Hamilton College . . . 1899
32. John Dane 1899
33. Alice Green 1900
34. Frederick J. Bradlee . . . 1900
35. Charles H. Newhall . . . 1900
36. H. (Bertram P. Huggins) . . 1900
    The "paddle" plate.

37. Prentiss Cummings . . . 1900
38. Thomas Upham Coe . . . 1900
39. Charles Robert Wilson . . 1900
40. Arthur E. Sproul . . . 1900
41. T. U. C. (Thomas U. Coe) . . 1901
    The monogram plate.
42. Bertram Perry Huggins . . 1901
43. Clarence W. Spring, M.D. . . 1901
44. R. High Carleton . . . 1901
45. Thomas W. Bakewell . . . 1901
46. Alpha Delta Phi Club . . . 1901
47. James Frothingham Hunnewell . 1902
48. Charles J. Bonaparte . . . 1902
    Designed by Howard Sill.
49. William Lambert Richardson . 1902
50. (Bruce) 1902
    After an old bookplate of Charles Dashwood Bruce.
51. Joseph N. Smith 1902
52. Helen Frances Dinsmore . . 1903
53. Bangor Public Library, Patten Fund 1903
54. Percival & Elisabeth Merritt . 1903
55. Boston Public Library, Billings Fund 1903
56. Boston Medical Library, Billings Fund 1903
57. Bangor Public Library . . 1903
58. Charles A. Coffin 1903
    After J. Aikin.
59. Harvard Union 1903
60. Albert R. Whittier, Jr. . . 1903

61. Charles P. Searle 1904
62. Annie B. Crocker . . . 1904
63. George Glover Corcker . . 1904
64. Lyneham Crocker . . . 1904
65. Margaret Crocker . . . 1904
66. Boston Medical Library . . 1904
    Designed by L. S. Ipsen.
67. Marlborough Public Library,
    Bigelow Fund 1904
68. Charles E. Goodspeed . . . 1904
69. Isabel & Larz Anderson . . 1904
70. Frank Brewer Bemis . . . 1904
71. Charles Lemuel Nichols, M.D. . 1905
72. Cortlandt Field Bishop . . 1905
73. Codman 1905
74. William Blodget 1905
75. Mary Greenleaf Turner . . 1905
    Designed by L. S. Ipsen.
76. William George Arthur Turner . 1906
    Designed by L. S. Ipsen.
77. Edith Kermit Roosevelt . . 1906
    Designed by Howard Pyle.
78. Metropolitan Museum of Art,
    Rogers Fund 1906
79. Lynn Public Library . . . 1906
    There are a number of electrotypes of this bookplate with the names of various funds added.
80. Robert Irving Jenks . . . 1906
81. Eleanor F. Sproul . . . 1906
82. Amy Gertrude Smith . . . 1906
83. Frances Swift Holbrook . . 1907

84. Bolton Public Library . . . 1907
Process plate.
85. Thomas Redfield Proctor, Maria Watson Williams Proctor . 1907
86. James Bourne Ayer, M.D. . . 1908
87. Francis A. Gaskill . . . 1908
88. John W. Farwell 1908
89. Isabella Lincoln Whittier . . 1908
90. Massachusetts Historical Society, Waterston Fund . . . 1908
91. Reverend George Downing Sparks 1908
Process plate.
92. G.B.G., J.H.G.G. (Gilbert) . 1908
93. Boston Public Library, Moulton Collection 1908
94. Pomfret Library, Moulton Collection 1908
95. Stevens Memorial Library . . 1908
96. Amy Bend Bishop . . . 1909
97. Bangor Public Library, State Fund 1909
98. Percival & Elisabeth Merritt . 1909
Walpoliana design.
99. A. Edward Newton . . . 1909
Designed by C. G. Osgood.
100. Frank Graef Darlington . . 1909
101. John Bouve Clapp . . . 1909
102. Keblers 1909
Designed by Jessie H. McNicol.
103. Essex Institute, Ward Fund . 1910
104. George B. Leighton . . . 1910

105. Henry Livingston Rowe . . 1910
106. Harcourt Amory 1910
107. Massachusetts Historical Society, Charlotte A. L. Sibley Fund . 1910
108. Massachusetts Historical Society, John Langdon Sibley Fund . 1910
109. Frederick Strong Moseley . . 1910
110. Frederick Winslow . . . 1911
Designed by G. Harelston Parker.
111. J.H.G.G. (Gilbert) . . . 1911
112. Richfield Springs Public Library 1911
113. Harvard College Library, Twentieth Massachusetts Regiment Memorial Fund . . . 1911
Designed by Bruce Rogers.
114. John F. Hill 1911
115. Harry Alfred Fowler . . . 1911
Kelmscott design.
116. Mary Livingstone Hinsdale . 1911
117. William Alexander Douglas . 1912
118. Susan Janney Allen . . . 1912
119. Hazel and Winward Prescott . 1912
Partly designed by Charles W. Sherborn.
120. Edith Heath Rossiter . . . 1912
121. Levy Mayer 1912
122. Hazel (Prescott) 1912
123. Litzelmann 1912
124. Josiah Minot Fowler . . . 1912
125. Farnsworth 1912
126. W. Prescott, Working Library . 1912

127.	(Name withheld)	1913
	After Franz von Bayros.	
128.	Charles Elliott Perkins . .	1913
129.	Scofield Thayer	1913
130.	Frederick Ayer, Jr. . . .	1913
131.	Thomas Fortune Ryan . .	1913
132.	The Lodge of St. Andrew . .	1913
133.	Joseph Manuel (and) Mary Shipman Andreini . . .	1913
134.	Bowdoin College, Class of 1875 .	1914
135.	Vassar College, Class of 1913 .	1914
136.	Harvard College, Class of 1885 .	1914
137.	(a) Plymouth Church (Portrait of Dr. Henry Hall) . . .	1914
	(b) Worcester Parish (Portrait of Dr. Henry Hall) . . .	1914
	(c) Cambridge Parish (Portrait of Dr. Henry Hall) . . .	1914
138.	Sargent Holbrook Wellman .	1914
139.	Isaac Rand Thomas . . .	1914
	After Paul Revere.	
140.	Charles Eliot Goodspeed . .	1915
141.	Joseph C. Egbert, M.D. . .	1915
142.	Henry F. Tapley, "In Memoriam" (Portrait) . . .	1915
143.	Mary Brinsmade Van Sinderen .	1915
144.	Henry F. Tapley, "In Memoriam" (children) . . .	1915
145.	Alfred Rogers Turner . . .	1915
	Designed by L. S. Ipsen.	

146. Lucius Lee Hubbard . . . 1916
Designed by R. Everett.
147. Francis G. Peabody . . . 1916
148. Miss Abbotts School Alumnae Association 1916
149. Davenport Brown . . . 1916
150. Hilda Rice Ayer 1916
151. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Vail Library . . 1916
152. Children's Hospital . . . 1916
153. Martha B. Stone 1917
154. Miss M. E. Blatchford (Richardson) 1917
155. Massachusetts Historical Society, General Fund 1917
156. Sallie W. Hovey 1918
157. Byam and Madeleine Whitney . 1918
158. Bangor Public Library, Peirce Fund 1918
159. American Antiquarian Society . 1919
160. E. S. 1919
161. Miss M. E. Blatchford (Second Richardson) 1919
162. Massachusetts Historical Society, Dowse Fund 1919
163. Annie Perry Hincks . . . 1919
164. Edmund Wright Clap . . . 1919
165. (Name withheld) 1920
166. (Name withheld) 1920
167. Miss Lee's School . . . 1920

A List of Bookplates left unfinished by J. Winfred Spenceley and completed by Sidney L. Smith

J.M.A. (Andreini)
Kenneth Minius Andreini
Clare Holbrook Spenceley
Richard Colby Spenceley
JWS Memorial Plate

All by SLS but monogram, "JWS," and two inner lines of border.

BOOKS ABOUT BOOKPLATES

Bookplates by Sidney L. Smith, by Gardner Teall. A critical essay with a chronological check-list of the bookplates and *two original copper-plate impressions* of bookplates by the artist. Price $1.00 per copy.

A Directory of Bookplate Artists, with notes concerning their work, has been compiled entirely from data furnished by the artists themselves. The notes in each case deal with the media in which the artist works, the style of design in which he specializes, the approximate cost of a design of his workmanship, and the length of time he has been making bookplates. This information is particularly valuable to anyone contemplating having a bookplate made. The designer's complete address is given in each case. Price $1.00 per copy.

Bookplates by Henry J. Stock, R.I., by James Guthrie. A critical essay with a check-list and nine illustrations by Mr. Stock, the latter including his own portrait and a frontispiece in colors. Price $1.00 per copy.

A Catalogue of Bookplates by Stanley Harrod presents a catalogue of the artist's bookplates with seven examples of his work, one of them an original etching. Price $0.50 per copy.

The Bookplates of Harold Nelson, by James Guthrie. A critical essay with twelve illustrations by the artist, four of them being hitherto unpublished. *In preparation.*

The Bookplates of Frank Brangwyn, R.A., by Haldane Macfall, presents sound criticism of the work of this popular artist, with twelve illustrations. *In preparation.*

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